
HISTORICAL ARRANGEMENT
of
UNITED STATES
COMMEMORATIVE COINS



BY

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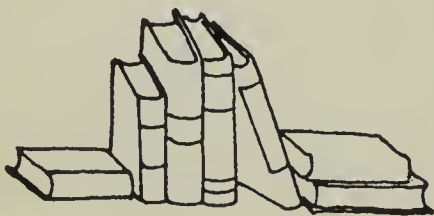
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Historical Arrangement
of
United States Commemorative Coins

BY
CHARLES W. FOSTER, *Curator*
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

WITH HISTORICAL NOTES

BY
NITA M. FELDMAN



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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

THE author has had a three-fold purpose in mind, while preparing the manuscript for this booklet. These are: first, to show the educational value of coin collecting; second, to point the way toward a better employment of the commemorative coin, both by the Government and the sponsoring committees; and, third, to bring together under one cover the many numismatic features of interest to the collector. Therefore, this publication is not to be considered a strictly numismatic work.

The writer claims little originality in his descriptions, except, possibly, the arrangement of the coins. He has freely drawn upon the works listed in the bibliography for facts and ideas, that would give it illustration and support.

He is particularly indebted to Arthur C. Parker, Director of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, for the inspiration, guidance and generous assistance given him in his work. He wishes to take this opportunity to personally thank all of the other members of the museum staff who have given him their fine co-operation and aid.

March 19, 1936

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INTRODUCTION

THE coinage of a country has often been called its metallic record. In ancient times, the Greeks and Romans placed on their coins various religious subjects, and when a victory or other event of national importance occurred, they either issued a coin to commemorate the affair or used devices on their coins, referring to it. These coins circulating throughout the country had much the same influence as books have today in educating the people and perpetuating their religion. It was not until the time of Alexander the Great that portraits appeared on coins. From this time on, it became the custom to stamp the coins with the ruler's likeness or his device. This was practiced to such an extent, that today the coins of the ancients are used by archeologists to interpret the events of the past. In many cases rulers, towns and incidents are known only through their coins.

During the early medieval period the art of making coins declined, as did the other arts. It was not until the fifteenth century that commemorative issues were revived, at which time a larger coinage came into use. In most cases these coins were issued as a part of the regular coinage for a limited period, although some were only souvenirs and others were used for presentations.

This type of coin had been used extensively in other countries, but was not employed in the United States until recent years, when they were issued in connection with anniversaries of historical events. In this respect, they differ from the ordinary practice, as only a few coins are issued contemporarily with each commemorative event. Many of the issues are limited and few are known by the general public.

In 1892 the cash appropriation made by Congress for the World's Columbian Fair at Chicago was coined into souvenir half dollars and turned over to the sponsoring committee, who sold them at a premium to raise funds for the Fair, hereby setting a precedent which has been followed with some thirty issues. Although it has not always been a congressional appropriation, in some cases they were authorized by Congress and prepared at the Washington Mint, under the direction of a sponsoring committee, which purchased them at par and resold them for at least twice their face value.

In the past, it has been customary to arrange these coins in the chronological order in which they were issued. This order, while being the accepted practice in numismatics, fails to show the full historical value and significance of the coins. Consequently, it is the primary purpose of this work to bring out their educational value in the form of a commemorative history of the United States. In order to do this, it was found necessary to rearrange the coins in the following order:

1. *Period of Discovery*
 - A. Columbian Half Dollars, 1892-93
 - B. Columbian Quarter Dollar, 1893
 - C. Old Spanish Trail Half Dollar, 1935

2. *Colonization*

- A. Pilgrim Half Dollars, 1920-21
- B. Huguenot-Walloon Half Dollar, 1924
- C. Maryland Half Dollar, 1934
- D. Connecticut Half Dollar, 1934
- E. Providence-Rhode Island Half Dollars, 1936

3. *Establishment*

- A. Lexington-Concord Half Dollar, 1925
- B. Sesqui-Centennial Quarter Eagle, 1926
- C. Sesqui-Centennial Half Dollar, 1926
- D. Bennington-Vermont Half Dollar, 1927

4. *Territorial Expansion*

- A. Louisiana Purchase-Jefferson Gold Dollar, 1903
- B. Louisiana Purchase-McKinley Gold Dollar, 1903
- C. Lewis and Clark Gold Dollars, 1904-5
- D. Vancouver Half Dollar, 1925
- E. Oregon Trail Half Dollars, 1926
- F. Texas Centennial Half Dollars, 1934

5. *Growth of the Union*

- A. Illinois Half Dollar, 1918
- B. Alabama Half Dollars, 1921
- C. Maine Half Dollar, 1920
- D. Missouri Half Dollars, 1921
- E. Arkansas Half Dollars, 1934-36
- F. California Half Dollar, 1925

6. *Foreign Relations*

- A. Monroe Doctrine Half Dollar, 1923

7. *Insular Possessions*

- A. Captain Cook Half Dollar, 1928

8. *Trade Facilitation*

- A. Panama-Pacific Fifty Dollar Octagon, 1915
- B. Panama-Pacific Quarter Eagle, 1915
- C. Panama-Pacific Gold Dollar, 1915
- D. Panama-Pacific Half Dollar, 1915
- E. San Diego Exposition Half Dollar, 1935

9. *Memorials*

Military and Presidential

- A. Lafayette Silver Dollar, 1900
- B. Grant Gold Dollars, 1922
- C. Grant Half Dollars, 1922
- D. Stone Mountain Half Dollar, 1925
- E. McKinley Gold Dollars, 1916-17

Pioneer

- A. Daniel Boone Half Dollars, 1934

Cities

- A. Hudson Half Dollar

RARITY

Number of Pieces

1 to 600	R 15
600 to 1,000	R 14
1,000 to 5,000	R 13
5,000 to 10,000	R 12
10,000 to 15,000	R 11
15,000 to 20,000	R 10
20,000 to 25,000	R 9
25,000 to 30,000	R 8
30,000 to 40,000	R 7
40,000 to 50,000	R 6
50,000 to 75,000	R 5
75,000 to 100,000	R 4
100,000 to 200,000	R 3
200,000 to 300,000	R 2
300,000 Upwards	R 1

DEGREE OF RARITY

The degree of rarity is based upon the number of pieces released or sold to the public; that is, the number of pieces struck, less those that were returned to the mint for melting. There seem to be some slight variations in these figures, particularly in the number melted. However the amounts taken are the most recent and most authentic. The variations are covered by the range allowed for each degree.

SIZES

The edges of the coins are reeded and the sizes for each denomination are uniform, as follows:

	<i>Sixteenths Inch</i>	<i>Millimeters</i>
Fifty Dollars	28	44
Quarter Eagles	11	18
Gold Dollars	9	14
Silver Dollars	24	38
Half Dollars	19	30
Quarter Dollars	15	24



PERIOD OF DISCOVERY

IN 1453, the Turkish Mohammedans took the city of Constantinople from the Christians, at the same time closing all European trade routes to the Orient.

Christian nations losing hope of ever converting the Mohammedans were eager to turn elsewhere to exercise their missionary zeal. This, together with the desire for the riches to be acquired through trade and commerce, caused them to seek a new route to India.

Christopher Columbus was born in the beginning of the era of exploration, the exact date of his birth not being known. His father, a wool-comber in Genoa, was apparently able to send his son to good schools. Columbus' desire to become a successful navigator was probably awakened by the stories of adventure, gleaned from the Genoese sailors with whom he spent much of his youth. He applied himself diligently to the study of mathematics and the science of navigation, and while perusing these subjects he became interested in the theory that the world was round. After having studied the various geographical opinions, ancient and modern, and, perhaps, having talked with north European navigators, he became convinced that the globular theory was correct.

Deciding that India could be reached by sailing west, Columbus sought financial aid for an expedition. He first went to the Portuguese, who, at that time, were the leaders in exploration. The Portuguese were interested, but tricked Columbus by sending out a ship without his knowledge. The attempt failed and the Portuguese, having proved their doubt to their own satisfaction, refused to give him the aid he wanted.

Columbus, disgusted with the Portuguese trick, set out for Spain. Here he interested many people, among whom was Queen Isabella, but results were the same as in Portugal. Just when he had given up and was ready to make a journey to France, his Spanish friends made a final plea to Queen Isabella. They met with success, probably due to rumors of British support, and immediately recalled Columbus.

Three ships were then fitted out for Columbus. These were the *Nina*, the *Pinta* and a third larger ship, the *Santa Maria*, but it was found easier to obtain ships than it was to find a crew. Sailors were unwilling to venture on an unknown sea full of terrors and dangers. After negotiations, however, a crew was obtained and the ships were ready to sail.

On the morning of August 3, 1492, Columbus left Palos, Spain, with his little fleet. After sailing westward for seventy days the fleet arrived at one of the islands of the Bahamas on October 12, 1492. Believing that he had at last found India, Columbus in reality had accidentally discovered America. While he did not actually reach the continent, his voyage is marked as the beginning of a period of western exploration in search of a New World.

In 1527 the expedition of Panfile de Narvaez sailed from Spain to North America. The purpose of this expedition has long been the source of considerable historical speculation. The expedition first landed in Florida, but met so many hardships, while making its way along the shores of the present states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, that many died of starvation and others were killed by the Indians. Only five of the original seven hundred were living after six years of struggle and slavery among the Indians.

In 1534, Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, treasurer of the expedition, and one of the survivors, managed to escape with three others. They made their way overland to the settlements of New Spain. De Vaca is the first European known to have traveled through this wilderness. He is also given credit for opening this route to trade and commerce.



PERIOD OF DISCOVERY



COLUMBIAN HALF DOLLAR

The first coin to be considered in our commemorative history is also the first commemorative coin issued in the United States, the Columbian half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, August 5, 1892, for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and coined to commemorate the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus.

DESCRIPTION

A. *Obverse:* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Bust of COLUMBUS to right; below, COLUMBIAN HALF DOLLAR; Small B on collar for Barber.

Reverse: WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION CHICAGO. A ship, sailing to left; below, two hemispheres, divided by which is the date 14-92; below, 1892; Design by C. E. Barber.

Number Struck: 950,000. All of these were released for circulation.

1. Similar to A except date which is 1893.

Number Struck: 4,052,105. *Number Melted:* 2,501,700.

Released for Circulation: 1,550,405.

Degree of Rarity: Both Columbian coins are very common in uncirculated condition but are somewhat scarce in proof condition, R 1.

Historical Note: Columbus sailed from the Spanish port of Palos August 3, 1492. The expedition was fitted out with three ships known as the Maria, Pinta and Nina. Though the crews mutinied and wished to return to Spain, order was restored through the energetic attitude of Columbus. In the early morning hours of October 12, 1492, land was discovered and at daybreak Columbus and his men disembarked on an island which Columbus called "San Salvador"—in reality, the first of the discovered islands of the New World.

PERIOD OF DISCOVERY



COLUMBIAN QUARTER DOLLAR

The next coin, in this historical period, is the Columbian quarter dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, March 3, 1893, for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and coined jointly with the Columbian half dollar.

This is the only coin issued by the United States bearing a portrait of a foreign monarch, except that of William the Silent on the Huguenot-Walloon Commemorative, q.v.

DESCRIPTION

B. *Obverse:* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Crowned bust of Isabella of Spain, to left; in field, on right, 1893.

Reverse: BOARD OF LADY MANAGERS. A spinner, kneeling to left, a distaff in her left hand and a spindle in her right¹; below, COLUMBIAN QUAR. DOL. Design by C. E. Barber.

Number Struck: 40,023.

Number Melted: 15,809.

Released for Circulation: 24,214.

Degree of Rarity: R 9.

Historical Note: Queen Isabella I of Spain earned her greatest title to fame in the eyes of posterity, by her support of the plans of Columbus who was a suppliant at the Spanish court. Though Isabella had shared with her army the dangers and hardships of the ten years' war waged against the Moors, she pledged, if necessary, "her crown of Castile and her jewels to raise the money" for Columbus. Thus, through Isabella's sympathy, interest, graciousness, and financial support, Columbus was able to make his voyage which in return was to bring grandeur and glory to Spain.

¹ Symbolic of woman's industry.

PERIOD OF DISCOVERY



OLD SPANISH TRAIL HALF DOLLAR

Next, in this group, is the Old Spanish Trail half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress in 1935 and struck the same year, to indicate the interest of the United States Government in commemorating the four hundredth anniversary of the Expedition of Cabeza de Vaca, and the opening of the Old Spanish Trail.

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* Head of a cow; in the field above, E PLURIBUS UNUM and LIBERTY on a scroll; below, ALVAR NUNEZ CABEZA DE VACA; around top border UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; on bottom border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Map of southern United States showing the path of Cabeza de Vaca with a tropical tree in the foreground; in right field, IN GOD WE TRUST; on the left El Paso; top border, OLD SPANISH TRAIL; bottom border, 1535-1935. Designed by L. W. Hoffecker.

Number Authorized: 10,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 10 to 11.

Note: The name "Cabeza de Vaca" signifies the head or skull of a cow. It originated, according to the family legend, during the reconquest of the Christians by the Moors. The name was awarded to a shepherd who had aided the Spaniards by showing them a pass through the mountains which was used for a surprise attack upon the unbelievers.



COLONIZATION

WE now pass over the period of exploration and pick up the thread of our history again in 1620, a lapse of one hundred and twenty-eight years.

All attempts to find a western passage to Asia had failed. The English, French, Dutch and Spanish, began colonizing the New World. Of these early colonies we are most interested in the English and Dutch.

The first English colony in the New World was started by the London Company in 1607. One hundred and twenty colonists were sent to Virginia the first year. These colonists settled at Jamestown, which is, therefore, the oldest English settlement in America.

Thirteen years after the founding of the colony at Jamestown, the second great center of English influence in America was established. The Pilgrims set sail in 1620 from Plymouth, England, in a little ship called the Mayflower and arrived at what was to be their home, a few days before Christmas, in the midst of a bleak New England winter. They had planned to settle in Virginia, but were carried farther north by stormy weather. The Plymouth Colony met with many hardships at first and were in danger of starvation. However, they made friends with the Indians who gladly traded their corn and furs for hatchets and other European novelties.

The Plymouth Colony was later absorbed by the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Very much the same principles were in the minds of the colonists in both places. These sentiments and principles have played so important a part in American life, that they have become known as the New England spirit. Unlike the Virginia colony, the Pilgrims came, not primarily to find a comfortable manner of living, but to find peace for their minds.

While this English colonization was taking place in the north and south, the Dutch, not recognizing these British claims to the country, had taken possession of the Hudson River valley by right of the discovery made in 1609 by Hudson, an English sailor in the services of Holland. This country became known as New Netherland.

In 1620, the Dutch purchased Manhattan Island from the Indians for twenty dollars worth of beads and ribbons. To this new settlement the Dutch West Indies Company sent the Walloons (Belgian and French Huguenots) in 1624. This marked the beginning of Dutch colonization, which progressed slowly until 1664, when the prospering town of New Amsterdam and surrounding country was surrendered to the British without a shot having been fired.

With the English conquest of New Netherland, the territory acquired, or regained, passed by royal grant to the Duke of York, and became the proprietary province of New York.

The influence of the Dutch traders, a third element in the New World's population, was responsible for the foundation of the country's center of trade and commerce.

The colony of Maryland was established in 1634 by Sir George Calvert or Lord Baltimore, who was a Roman Catholic. Roman Catholics were like the Puritans in not accepting the rule of the Established Church in England. It was Lord Baltimore's desire to found a colony where Roman Catholics would be free, but he did not limit membership in his colony to Catholics. Protestants were also welcome and all settlers were treated alike in their religious rights. This might well indicate the beginning of religious tolerance in America.

In 1635-36 the colonies of Connecticut and Providence (later Rhode Island) were formed by small bands of colonists from Massachusetts, who were not in accord with the mother colony on religious matters.

In this period of colonization and settlement we have the following commemorative coins.



COLONIZATION



PILGRIM HALF DOLLAR

Under the period of "Colonization" the first coin is the Pilgrim half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, May 12, 1920, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

DESCRIPTION

Obverse: Half-length portrait of Governor Bradford with hat, and carrying a Bible in his left arm to left; in upper right field, IN GOD| WE TRUST; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; below, a star at each end of PILGRIM HALF DOLLAR; small incused D under elbow for Dallin.

Reverse: The "Mayflower" sailing to left. At top, around border, PILGRIM TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION, A star at each side of 1620-1920. Modeled by Cyrus Dallin.

Number Struck: 200,112, and all were released for circulation.

Degree of Rarity: R 2.

1. Similar to A except date which is 1921.

Number Struck: 100,053. *Number Melted:* 80,000.

Released for Circulation: 20,053.

Degree of Rarity: R 9.

Historical Note: The Pilgrims were a Puritan sect, known as Separatists, who had fled from England to Holland and then to America to found a place of refuge. On December 21, 1620, the emigrants landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, the first permanent settlement in New England.

COLONIZATION



HUGUENOT-WALLOON HALF DOLLAR

The second coin relating to “Colonization” is the Huguenot half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, February 26, 1923, and struck in 1924, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the settlement of New Netherland (Middle States) by the Huguenots and Walloons.

DESCRIPTION

B. *Obverse:* Accoladed busts of Admiral Coligny and William the Silent to right; below, COLIGNY AND WILLIAM THE SILENT; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; in right field, IN| GOD| WE| TRUST|; at bottom, around border, HUGUENOT. HALF. DOLLAR; Small m on bottom of bust for Morgan.

Reverse: The ship “New Nederland” sailing to left above around border. HUGUENOT-WALLOON TERCENTENARY; in left field, 1624; in right field, 1924; at bottom around border, FOUNDING OF NEW NETHERLAND. Design by George T. Morgan.

Number Struck: 142,080.

Number Melted: 55,000.

Released for Circulation: 87,080.

Degree of Rarity: R 4.

Historical Note: William the Silent, Prince of Orange, was the leader of the revolt of the Netherlands against Spain. He devoted himself to the assertion of the liberties of his people in a bitter struggle against religious persecution.

Gaspard De Chattellon Coligny was a Huguenot leader, who wished to protect his co-religionists. In 1569 he became sole leader of the Protestant armies in France.

COLONIZATION



MARYLAND HALF DOLLAR

The next coin commemorating “Colonization” is the Maryland half dollar authorized by an Act of Congress, May 2, 1934, and struck during that year, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the Maryland colonists at St. Mary’s City, March 1634.

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* Bust of Cecil Calvert facing right, and below, CECIL CALVERT; on the left, E PLURIBUS UNUM; on the right, IN GOD| WE TRUST; at bottom, HALF DOLLAR; around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Reverse: The Maryland arms; below, 1634-1934; around top border, MARYLAND TERCENTENARY. Designed by Hans Schuler.

Number Authorized: 25,000.

Number Struck: 20,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 10.

Historical Note: The chief cause that led to the settlement of Maryland was the desire of Lord Baltimore (Cecilius Calvert), a Catholic, to found a colony where his fellow believers might profess their religion openly. Other denominations, however, were to be on an equal basis with the Catholics. A site near the bank of the Potomac River, was bought from the Yaocomico Indians, and formal possession of the territory was taken by Calvert, March 27, 1634. The settlement was known as St. Mary’s. The Maryland settlers had many advantages: friendly relations with the Indians; healthful climate and fertile soil of the site; a liberal government.

COLONIZATION



CONNECTICUT HALF DOLLAR

Next relating to "Colonization" is the Connecticut half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress in 1935, and struck the same year to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Connecticut, (1635).

DESCRIPTION

D. *Obverse:* Oak tree; in the field, THE CHARTER OAK; below, CONNECTICUT 1635-1935; around top border, IN GOD WE TRUST and LIBERTY.

Reverse: American Eagle standing upon a rock foundation; in left field, E PLURIBUS UNUM in three lines; below, HALF DOLLAR; around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA under which a row of thirteen stars is shown.¹

Number Authorized: 25,000.

Number Struck: 25,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 9.

Historical Note: Though the Dutch of New Amsterdam had begun a trading post at Suckiang (Hartford), the more permanent settlement was made by the emigrants from Massachusetts who wished a more democratic government. The settlement was called "Hartford" in honor of Samuel Stone, a minister who was a native of Hertford, England. So rapid was the emigration from Massachusetts that Connecticut had a population of nearly three thousand in 1635. In that year John Winthrop, Jr. was sent over to act as Governor. His skill and diplomacy later procured a charter from Charles II giving absolute autonomy to the Connecticut Colony.

¹ The design was a W.P.A. project executed by Henry G. Kreiss, under direction of Paul Manship in Essex, Conn.

COLONIZATION



RHODE ISLAND HALF DOLLAR

In this group are those coins, authorized by an Act of Congress in 1935, to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Providence, Rhode Island.

DESCRIPTION

- E. *Obverse:* Design to portray the welcome of Roger Williams by the Indians at Slate Rock with the word *LIBERTY*; around the border, top, *IN GOD WE TRUST*, bottom, *RHODE ISLAND*, left side 1636, right side 1936.

Reverse: Shield of Rhode Island bearing the Anchor of Hope and mantling with *E PLURIBUS UNUM* as emblematic of the relationship between State and Union; around the border, top, *UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*, bottom, *HALF DOLLAR*. Designed by John Howard Benson and Arthur Graham Carey.

Number Authorized: 50,000 divided among three mints.

Philadelphia Mint: 20,000. *Degree of Rarity:* R 10.

1. Same as (E) except struck at the Denver Mint.

Number Struck: 15,000. *Degree of Rarity:* R 11.

2. Same as (E) except struck at the San Francisco Mint.

Number Struck: 15,000. *Degree of Rarity:* R 11.

Historical Note: The history of Rhode Island began when Roger Williams was banished from Massachusetts Bay. He landed with a few companions on what is still known as "Roger Williams' Rock" and began the settlement of a town named Providence.



ESTABLISHMENT

THE colonies after about one hundred and fifty years of growth and intermittent prosperity, finally reached the point where a rupture with England seemed unavoidable.

One thing after another came into the controversy: first, the Navigation Acts; second, the Stamp Act and Tea Tax, giving occasion to the familiar words, "Taxation without representation is tyranny," and, finally, the closing of the Port of Boston in 1774.

The tension between the colonies and the mother country became so great that it was only necessary for some little spark to start the fire. On April 19, 1775, an event happened which took the debate from the rostrum to the field of battle.

The British Ministers, chafing because the presence of soldiers had not awed the colonists into submission, reprimanded the commanding officer at Boston, General Gage, for his inertia. Gage, hearing of the military stores the colonists had collected at Concord, sent a small force to seize the supplies. On passing through Lexington, they fired upon several Minute Men, who failed to disperse, when ordered. It was not long before the whole country-side was in arms. The Minute Men defeated the British and drove them back to Boston. This was the first battle of the Revolution, after which reconciliation with the English King was impossible.

Things moved rapidly; the Americans drove out the royal governors; and each colony maintained its own government. A committee was appointed to draft a Declaration of Independence. This great paper was brought before a meeting of the Continental Congress and was adopted on July 4, 1776. With the signing of the Declaration of Independence, war began in earnest.

The crucial point of the Revolutionary War was the Battle of Bennington, Vermont. This battle, though only a small engagement, greatly assisted in the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga. With this victory, the colonists gained control of the Hudson and secured the respect of European nations, leading to an alliance with France.

Illustrating the events of America's war for independence, we have the Lexington-Concord half dollar, Sesqui-Centennial quarter eagle and half dollar and the Bennington half dollar.

Historical Note: On October 17, 1777, General John Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates in a decisive defeat at Saratoga. Burgoyne's army, prior to the battle of Saratoga, had been harrassed by the embattled farmers of New York and New England and his regiments' line of communication had been broken completely.

ESTABLISHMENT



LEXINGTON-CONCORD HALF DOLLAR

The first coin in the period of early statehood is the Lexington-Concord half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, January 24, 1925, and struck in the same year to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

DESCRIPTION

- A. *Obverse:* The Minute Man, reproduction of the statue at Concord, to right; around border, at top, CONCORD | MINUTE MAN; right field, IN GOD | WE TRUST; at bottom around border, a star at each end of PATRIOT HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Reproduction of old belfry at Lexington, below, the words OLD BELFRY LEXINGTON; has a band around border, LEXINGTON-CONCORD SESQUI-CENTENNIAL; at bottom 1775-1925. Models by Chester Beach.

Number Struck: 162,099.

Number Melted: 86.

Released for Circulation: 162,013.

Degree of Rarity: R 3.

Historical Note: On the night of April 18, 1775, the colonists discovered the intention of General Gage to send British troops to Concord to destroy some military stores which had been collected there. Plans were also revealed concerning the seizing of John Hancock and Samuel Adams, who were living temporarily at Lexington. When the advance of the British column reached Lexington, it was faced by the Massachusetts “minute-men,” and Lexington became the scene of the first contest in the Revolutionary War. The British force then proceeded to Concord and a brisk fight followed which resulted in losses for both sides.

ESTABLISHMENT



SESQUI-CENTENNIAL QUARTER EAGLE

The next coin to be considered is the Sesqui-Centennial quarter eagle, authorized by an Act of Congress, March 3, 1925, and struck the following year, with the half dollar, to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

DESCRIPTION

B. *Obverse:* Figure of Liberty to left, holding in right hand a torch and in left hand a scroll, the latter emblematic of the Declaration of Independence, and standing on a segment of globe; in lower left field, 1776; in middle right field, 1926; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; at bottom, around border, LIBERTY.

Reverse: Independence Hall, Philadelphia; in upper field, IN GOD—WE TRUST; below, E PLURIBUS UNUM; at top around border, SESQUI-CENTENNIAL OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE; at bottom, around border, 2½ Dollars. Models by J. R. Sinnock; J. R. S. in lower right field.

Number Struck: 200,226.

Number Melted: 154,207.

Released for Circulation: 46,019.

Degree of Rarity: R 6.

Historical Note: On July 4, 1776, Thomas Jefferson's draft of a "Declaration of Independence" was adopted unanimously by delegates of twelve colonies at the Continental Congress. The delegates representing New York had not as yet been authorized to support the independence movement. However, on July 9, a New York convention pledged its support of the Declaration. The document was signed July 4, 1776 by John Hancock as President of the Congress, and on August 2, was signed by 53 members then present at Congress. Subsequently, the three remaining members of Congress affixed their signatures. The United Colonies thus became free and independent states, and were "absolved from all allegiance to the British crown."

ESTABLISHMENT



SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HALF DOLLAR

The third coin in this period is the Sesqui-Centennial half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, March 3, 1925, and struck the following year, to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* Accoladed busts of President Washington and President Coolidge¹ to right; in lower right field, IN GOD| WE TRUST; at top around border, LIBERTY; at bottom around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; small J. R. S. on bottom of bust for Sinnock.

Reverse: The Liberty Bell; in left field, 1776; in right field, 1926; on slightly raised band around entire border, SESQUI-CENTENNIAL OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE . HALF DOLLAR; in upper field, E PLURIBUS UNUM. Models by J. R. Sinnock.

Number Struck: 1,000,528.

Number Melted: 859,408.

Released for Circulation: 141,120.

Degree of Rarity: R 3.

Historical Note: The influence of the Declaration of Independence was three-fold. First of all, ambiguity was at an end. Protest and nullification were merged in the single aim of vindicating the Declaration of Independence on the battlefield. Secondly, the Declaration of Independence was important as a diplomatic measure in arousing favor among France, Spain and Holland who were previously not interested in the mere reform of the British Empire. Last, was the encouraging effect this spirit of independence had upon the ill-kept soldiers and despairing statesmen.

¹ First living president to have his portrait on a United States coin.

ESTABLISHMENT



BENNINGTON HALF DOLLAR

The last coin in this period is the Bennington or Vermont half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, February 24, 1925, but not struck until 1927. This coin commemorates the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Bennington, Aug. 16, 1777.

DESCRIPTION

D. *Obverse:* Portrait head of Ira Allen, to right; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; below head IRA ALLEN; at bottom, around border, FOUNDER OF VERMONT.

Reverse: A catamount to left; at top, around border, BATTLE OF BENNINGTON; in parallel lines, small letters, IN GOD WE TRUST; upper field, 1777-1927; in left field, Aug. 16; in two lines parallel at bottom around border, E PLURIBUS UNUM and HALF DOLLAR. Models by Charles Keck; small CK under catamount's tail.

Number Struck: 40,034.

Number Melted: 11,892.

Number Released for Circulation: 28,142.

Degree of Rarity: R 8.

Historical Note: The Battle of Bennington was fought on August 6, 1777, between a force of Hessians, British Loyalists and Indians, under Colonel Baum, and a superior force of New Hampshire militia, under General Stark. Burgoyne had sent Baum with a detachment of 700 to capture the depot of supplies at Bennington and had also sent Colonel Breyman with a reinforcement of 640 Hessians. Baum was attacked by Stark, at the head of about 2,000 militia, and before the arrival of Breyman almost the whole of Baum's army had been killed, wounded or captured. Stark then turned on Breyman's forces and practically annihilated his army.



TERRITORIAL EXPANSION

WE leave America in 1777, before the Revolutionary War is over and return after the United States has been firmly established.

In 1800 the western boundary of the United States reached only to the Mississippi River. Beyond, extended the vast unknown Louisiana Territory, whose boundaries were Florida and the Gulf of Mexico on the south, extending north to Canada and westward to the Rocky Mountains.

While President Jefferson was busy defending our commerce against the pirates in the Mediterranean, he had troubles brewing nearer home. With Spain in control of the Mississippi River outlet, the western farmers frequently had trouble with the authorities. Finally in 1802, the Spanish authorities in New Orleans closed the Mississippi outlet to American citizens. This meant that the Americans in the Ohio Valley could no longer take their products down to New Orleans and dispose of them as they had done in the past. The western farmers were very indignant and threatened to march against New Orleans with their own troops, if the Government did not intervene.

Jefferson came to their aid, but in a way that was not expected. In 1800, Spain had secretly ceded Louisiana back to France. The French occupation was strongly opposed by Jefferson, who felt that as long as a weak nation like Spain held the territory the United States had little to fear, but if a powerful nation like France should take possession the Americans in the west would have a great deal to fear. Jefferson realized that France must be kept out of Louisiana at all costs, yet he did not want war. He, therefore, sent James Monroe to Paris to assist the American minister in an attempt either to purchase Florida and New Orleans outright or to secure a right of deposit at New Orleans.

When Monroe reached Paris, England and France had resumed their war and Napoleon, fearing Louisiana would fall into the hands of the English, and needing funds to carry on his war, decided to sell the whole province to the United States. The American envoys, although without the authority to act so quickly, assumed the responsibility and in April 1803, France ceded to the United States the Louisiana Territory for \$15,000,000 or about three cents an acre, in the greatest real estate transaction the whole world has ever seen. With this purchase the United States secured control of all the great North American river systems, and enough land to make nearly thirteen states.

Into the north of this new land, Jefferson sent the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1804. Traveling up the Missouri River to its sources in the Bitter Root Mountains, then overland, across the Rockies to the headwaters of the Columbia River and down to the Pacific Ocean, Lewis and Clark accomplished what other travelers had attempted, but failed to do.

This expedition opened up the fur trade in the region beyond the Mississippi, and in a few years trading posts began to appear along the route. This trade finally extended as far as the Oregon country which now came into dispute. The United States claimed the country by right of discovery, and Spain, as the original owner of all territory west of the Rockies, claimed the same land. Great Britain, without claiming possession, asserted the right to fish and trade with the natives as had been accorded her by Spain. In 1818, England and the United States entered upon an agreement of joint occupancy and the following year Spain relinquished all claims to the country.

For a time it seemed as though the British had the better of the bargain. Through the powerful Hudson Bay Company they secured most of the fur trade. However, the American farmer pressing hard upon the wilderness with his plough, soon changed things.

Dr. John McLoughlin, the generous chief of the British trading post at Fort Vancouver, which had been established in 1825, gave the American emigrants a cordial welcome, after they had traversed the long overland trail and encouraged the settlement of the Oregon country. As the country was filling with American settlers it became apparent that the boundary lines must be finally settled.

Consequently in 1844, the Democrats made the Oregon cause part of their campaign and declared they would have all of the territory up to 54 degrees and 40 minutes, using the famous slogan "Fifty-four forty or fight." Finally, the Oregon dispute was settled, and in 1859 part of the Pacific Northwest was admitted to the Union as the state of Oregon.

While the northwest was being settled, the same expansion was taking place in the southwest. Like the Oregon country, the neighboring territory of Texas, which belonged to Mexico, was filling with Americans. However, it did not result in a peaceful settlement. The Americans could not agree with the Mexicans and their government. So, after a bitter struggle, the Texans won their independence from Mexico in 1836 and set up their own government. The Republic of Texas remained as a separate country until 1845, when it was admitted to the Union as a state.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION



LOUISIANA PURCHASE GOLD DOLLAR

The first coins of this group are those commemorating the Louisiana Purchase, authorized by an Act of Congress, June 28, 1902, and coined in 1902 and 1903, but bearing no coinage date.

DESCRIPTION

McKinley Gold Dollar

- A. *Obverse:* Around border UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; bust of President McKinley to left.

Reverse: LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION, ST. LOUIS. In field, ONE | DOLLAR | (Olive branch) | 1803 | 1903.

Design by C. E. Barber.

Jefferson Gold Dollar

- B. *Obverse:* Around border UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; bust of President Thomas Jefferson to left.

Reverse: Similar to the one above.

Number Struck: A total of 250,258 were coined of both types in the two years.

Number Melted: Approximately 215,258.

Released for Circulation: 35,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 10.

Historical Note: The Louisiana Territory was purchased from France in May 1803, for the sum of 80,000,000 francs or some \$14,500,000. Jefferson had sent Monroe as envoy to carry on negotiations with Napoleon, with the hope of purchasing New Orleans with West Florida, if possible, for not more than \$10,000,000. The final agreement bought for an amount half again as large the whole of Louisiana, a tract which doubled the area of the United States.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION



LEWIS AND CLARK GOLD DOLLAR

Second, are the coins of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, authorized by an Act of Congress, April 13, 1904, and struck in 1904 and 1905 in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the exploration of the northwest.

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* LEWIS-CLARK EXPOSITION PORTLAND ORE. Bust of Meriwether Lewis to left; below, 1904.

Reverse: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Bust of William Clark to left; beneath, ONE DOLLAR. Design by C. E. Barber.

Number Struck: 25,028. *Number Melted:* 15,003.

Released for Circulation: 10,025.

Degree of Rarity: R 11.

1. Similar to C except date which is 1905.

Number Struck: 35,041. *Number Melted:* 25,000.

Released for Circulation: 10,041.

Degree of Rarity: R 11.

Historical Note: Jefferson, an enthusiastic advocate of expansion, sent an expedition, under the leadership of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, to explore the continent from the Mississippi. The land beyond the Mississippi up to the forty-second parallel of latitude belonged to Spain, and north of that was claimed by both England and the United States. The expedition ascended the Missouri River to its source, struck the upper waters of the Columbia River, and reached the Pacific in the autumn of 1805. Lewis and Clark were the first whitemen to cross the continent north of Mexico. The expedition established the best claim of the United States to the Oregon region in a later dispute with England.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION



VANCOUVER HALF DOLLAR

Third, we have the Vancouver half dollar, authorized by Act of Congress, February 24, 1925, and struck the same year at the San Francisco Mint, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Fort Vancouver in the state of Washington.

DESCRIPTION

D. *Obverse:* Bust of Dr. John McLoughlin, builder of Fort Vancouver, to left; below, DR. JOHN McLOUGHLIN; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; in field, 1825-1925, IN GOD—WE TRUST; at bottom, around border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: A frontiersman in buckskin suit, holding a gun, to right; in background, within a circle, the fort and a mountain peak; at top, Fort Vancouver Centennial, at bottom in small letters, VANCOUVER · WASHINGTON · FOUNDED · 1825 · BY, in larger letters, HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY. Models by Laura G. Fraser. Small LGF near right border.

Number Struck: 50,028.

Number Melted: 35,034.

Released for Circulation: 14,966.

Degree of Rarity: R 11.

Historical Note: Vancouver, the oldest city of Washington, was founded in 1825 by Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor of the Hudson Bay Company. Doctor McLoughlin built a stockade (Fort Vancouver) on a site now included in the military reservation. The fort was one of the Company's important trading posts until 1846, when it was taken over by the United States. The village became the county seat in 1854 and was chartered as a city in 1889.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION



OREGON TRAIL HALF DOLLAR

The next coins in this division are the Oregon Trail half dollars, authorized by Act of Congress, May 17, 1926, and struck over a period of several years to commemorate the heroism of the fathers and mothers who traversed the Oregon Trail to the far west.

DESCRIPTION

- E. *Obverse:* Figure of Indian, to right, left arm outstretched, right hand holding bow, wearing feathered bonnet, with blanket over arm; in field, extending on both sides of figure, a map of the United States, on which a line of conestoga wagons indicates the Oregon Trail; superimposed over map in field, UNITED—STATES—OF—AMERICA; at bottom, around border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: A conestoga wagon drawn by oxen over brow of a hill toward the setting sun, rays of which fill the field; at top, around border, IN GOD WE TRUST; in exergue, OREGON TRAIL MEMORIAL; below, five stars; at bottom, 1926. Models by Laura G. Fraser, small ^{JE} LG F behind covered wagon.

Number Struck: 48,030.

*Number Melted:*¹

*Number Released:*²

Degree of Rarity: R 6.

1. Same as E except struck at San Francisco.

Number Struck: 100,055.

*Number Melted:*¹

*Released for Circulation:*²

Degree of Rarity: R 3.

2. Same as E, 1928, Philadelphia Mint.

Number Struck: 50,028.

Number Melted: 42,000.

Number Released: 6,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

3. Same as E, but struck in 1933 at the Denver Mint.

Number Struck: 6,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

4. Same as E, but struck in 1934 at the Denver Mint.

Number Struck: 7,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

¹ No large quantities to date.

² Same as number struck.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION



Reverse

Obverse

TEXAS CENTENNIAL HALF DOLLAR

The last coins of this period are the Texas Independence Centennial half dollars, authorized by Act of Congress, June 16, 1933, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the independence of Texas.

DESCRIPTION

F. *Obverse:* A large eagle superimposed on a large five-pointed star, below 1934; to the lower left E. PLURIBUS UNUM; upper right, IN GOD WE TRUST; around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Seated female figure with drapery and outstretched wings, her left arm thrown protectingly over a miniature representation of the Alamo. Above her head, on a scroll, "Liberty" and the flags of France, Spain and Mexico; at left, medallion portrait of Sam Houston; at right, medallion portrait of Stephen F. Austin; lower right field, 1836-1936; around top border, THE TEXAS INDEPENDENCE CENTENNIAL, bottom REMEMBER THE ALAMO. Models by Pompeo Coppini.

The large five-pointed star is symbolic of Texas as the Lone Star State. The flags on the reverse indicate all of the countries that ruled over the territory before the Texan Declaration of Independence.

Number Struck: The original act called for 1,500,000 pieces to be struck in 1936, but they first appeared in 1934 and numerous varieties subsequently followed. It will be impossible to have a complete list of them here, as they were still being issued when this publication went to press.

1. Struck in 1934 at Philadelphia Mint.

*Number Struck:*¹

*Degree of Rarity:*¹

2. Same type struck at Philadelphia in 1935.

Number Struck: 10,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

3. Same type struck at Denver Mint in 1935.

Number Struck: 10,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

4. Same as preceding struck at San Francisco Mint.

Number Struck: 10,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

1936 series to be added.

¹ Not known at this writing, but it is the more common variety.



GROWTH OF THE UNION

WHILE Jefferson and Madison were asserting our rights as a nation, the great work of winning the west did not cease. During the hard times of the Embargo Act and the War of 1812 the stream of western migration flowed faster than ever. Between 1800 and 1820 the population of the west and southwest increased almost 2,000,000, and nearly a half million square miles of territory were wrested from the Indians and brought under American influence.¹

Settlers poured into the old Northwest Territory along the Ohio River, after land was made cheap in 1800. They came from all the old sections of the country. Large numbers came from the north and south, especially from New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina. The southern stock, however, did not belong to the slaveholding class because slavery, by the Ordinance of 1787, was excluded from the territory.¹

The first state to be made out of this territory was Ohio in 1803, as the wave of migration moved westward to Indiana. Here, after the Indians were subdued, the settlers took up the land grants and the state of Indiana was admitted to the Union in 1816. While Indiana was seeking admittance, her neighbor in the west was preparing for statehood and was added to the Union in 1818 as the state of Illinois.

In the south, the land along the Gulf of Mexico was being settled almost as fast as that in the north. While planters moved down into Louisiana, pioneers were also entering the Mississippi territory, which extended from Georgia to the Mississippi River. In 1816 the population of this section was 75,000 and application for admission to the Union was made. The request was granted, but a division of the territory was necessary, the boundaries extending from the Tennessee River on the north to the Gulf of Mexico on the south. In 1817 the part west of the line was admitted as the state of Mississippi. Two years later the eastern section entered as the state of Alabama. So, with the addition of these states, the equilibrium between the free and slave states was maintained.

The slavery question was becoming important and the need for preserving the balance between the north and south resulted in the Missouri Compromise in 1820. The Compromise extended the line of demarcation westward on the parallel of 36 degrees and 30 minutes. Maine was admitted as a free state while Missouri came in as a slave state. There was now an equal balance between the north and south. In 1836, Arkansas was admitted as a slave state, being regarded as an offset to Michigan, which was about to enter as a free state.

¹ Forman

The Missouri Compromise kept the slavery question on an even keel until 1850, when California applied for admission. California, coming to the United States with the territory ceded by Mexico, grew rapidly after gold was discovered in 1848. The population of 10,000 at the time of this important find was increased to 100,000 in two years. In need of law and order California framed a constitution and asked to be admitted to statehood. The constitution prohibited slavery and the debate in Congress was long and stormy. In 1850 Congress admitted California as part of the second great slavery compromise, the Compromise of 1850.

We will now consider the group of coins pertaining to this period of growth, which did not end with the admittance of California, but continued until 1912 when Arizona and New Mexico entered, bringing the total to 48 states.



GROWTH OF THE UNION



ILLINOIS HALF DOLLAR

The first coin in this period is the Illinois half dollar which was coined in 1918 by authority of an Act of Congress, June 1, 1918, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of that state to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

A. *Obverse:* At top, around border, CENTENNIAL OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. Bust of Lincoln to the right; in horizontal lines in left field, IN | GOD | WE | TRUST; below, in right field, LIBERTY; below bust, 1918.

Reverse: At top, around border, UNITED . STATES . OF . AMERICA; below, HALF DOLLAR. Eagle facing left standing partly on shield of the United States and partly on a rock. In eagle's beak a ribbon inscribed with STATE SOVEREIGNTY NATIONAL UNION; in right field, E | PLURIBUS | UNUM above a rising sun; at base of shield, an olive branch. Obverse model by George T. Morgan and Reverse by John R. Sinnock.

Number Struck: 100,058, all of which were released for circulation.

Degree of Rarity: R 3.

Historical Note: On December 3, 1818, Illinois was admitted into the Union so as to include the port of Chicago. This region had become a part of the Northwest Territory in 1787. After Ohio, Indiana and Michigan were set off, what remained was organized as Illinois Territory on February 3, 1809, and remained as such until its admission into the Union. The admission of Illinois with all its rich land was a very important step in the economic history of the Union. Migration became so heavy in this territory that as early as 1830 Illinois had a population of 157,000.

GROWTH OF THE UNION



ALABAMA HALF DOLLAR

The next coins in this division are those of the Alabama Centennial, authorized May 10, 1920, but not struck until October 1921. The coins were placed on sale at Birmingham, Alabama, during the visit of President Harding on October 29th. They commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Alabama to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

- B. *Obverse:* Accoladed busts of William Wyatt Bibb, the first Governor of Alabama, and Thomas E. Kilby¹, the Governor in 1920; to left, beneath, in small letters, BIBB-1921-KILBY. In field, at lower left, twelve stars in three lines; at lower right, ten stars in three lines; above, 2 on either side of a St. Andrews Cross²; around outer border, at top, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; forming inner border, at top, IN GOD WE TRUST; at bottom, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: The seal of Alabama; an eagle to left with raised wings, arrows in talons; in back, the shield of the United States; in eagle's beak a ribbon with the state's motto, HERE WE REST; around border, at top, STATE OF ALABAMA; at bottom, 1819 Centennial 1919. Models by Laura G. Fraser. Small LGF in field back of eagle.

Number Struck: 6,006, all of which were released for circulation.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

1. Same as B but without the 2 Cross 2.

Number Struck: 54,038.

Number Melted: 5,000.

Released for Circulation: 59,038.

Degree of Rarity: R 5.

¹ This is the first time a portrait of a living person appears on a United States coin.

² Indicating the 22nd state to enter the Union.

GROWTH OF THE UNION



MAINE HALF DOLLAR

This coin, authorized by an Act of Congress, May 10, 1920, was struck the same year, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Maine to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* Arms of the State of Maine; a pine tree with a moose at base, on shield supported by two figures representing agriculture and commerce; above, a star and DIRIGO on scroll; below the shield, MAINE on scroll; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; below, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Within a wreath of pine needles and cones, MAINE | CENTENNIAL | 1820-1920; above, E PLURIBUS UNUM and LIBERTY; below, IN GOD—WE TRUST. Modeled by Anthony de Francisci.

Number Struck: 50,028, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 5.

Historical Note: The province of Maine, which had been a part of Massachusetts since 1677, had been eager to be formed into a separate state. It finally won the consent of the legislature of Massachusetts, and at the opening of Congress in December 1819, applied for admission to the Union. Maine had a free-state constitution already formed. The House promptly passed the bill admitting Maine. However the Senate committee added to the Maine bill a provision for admitting Missouri without any restrictions regarding the slavery question. The Missouri section of the bill caused much debate and this delayed Maine's admission. Finally, on March 3, 1820, President Monroe signed the bill admitting Maine as a free state.

GROWTH OF THE UNION



MISSOURI HALF DOLLAR

These coins were authorized by an Act of Congress, March 4, 1921, and struck the same year, for the exposition and state fair held at Sedalia, Missouri, in August 1921, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of the state to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

- D. *Obverse:* Bust of a frontiersman with coon-skin cap and deerskin coat to left; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; below, HALF DOLLAR; in lower field, on either side, 1821-1921.

Reverse: A full length figure of a frontiersman with gun and powder horn, with arm extended, beside an Indian in war-bonnet holding shield and pipe; in field, 24 stars four rows of six each, at top, around border, MISSOURI CENTENNIAL; in exergue, SEDALIA, incused. Modeled by Robert Aitken small RA near gun butt.

Number Struck: 45,000.

Number Melted: 29,600.

Released for Circulation: 15,400.

Degree of Rarity: R 10.

1. Same as D above, but with special mark 2 star 4¹ in field, above 1821.

Number Struck: 5,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

Historical Note: When Missouri applied for admission, there followed a most bitter political quarrel as to whether it should be admitted with or without slavery restrictions. According to the Missouri Compromise, Missouri was finally admitted with slavery permitted, but slavery was to be excluded from all the Louisiana Purchase Territory, north of 36° 30'.

¹ Indicating the 24th state to enter the Union.

GROWTH OF THE UNION



ARKANSAS HALF DOLLAR

These coins were authorized by an Act of Congress late in 1934, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Arkansas to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

E. *Obverse:* Portrait of an Indian and Liberty; in the left field, 1836 and 1936. This design represents the span of progress of one hundred years. On lower border, ARKANSAS CENTENNIAL.

Reverse: Pictures an eagle with outstretched wings guarding the diamond-shaped symbol taken from the Arkansas flag, the scroll held in the eagle's mouth bears the mottoes, on the left IN GOD WE TRUST, on the right E PLURIBUS UNUM. Below, rising sun superimposed with HALF DOLLAR and minting date 1935. Around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Within the diamond-shaped symbol, ARKANSAS above which is placed one star and below three stars, thirteen stars are shown on the part of diamond in view. Designed by Edward Everett Burr.

The diamond-shaped symbol indicates that Arkansas is the only state to have produced diamonds. The upper star commemorates the state's participation in the Confederacy. The three stars have two meanings. It was the third state carved from the Louisiana Purchase and it has been under three flags, Spanish, French and American.

The sun is indicative of enterprise.

Number Authorized: 500,000. Like the Texas half dollar this is divided with a number of varieties.

<i>Variety:</i>	<i>Number Struck:</i>	<i>Degree of Rarity:</i>
1. 1935 Philadelphia Mint.	13,000.	R 11.
2. 1935 San Francisco Mint.	5,500.	R 12.
3. 1935 Denver Mint.	5,500.	R 12.
4. 1936 Philadelphia Mint.	5,000.	R 13.
5. 1936 Denver Mint.	5,000.	R 13.
6. 1936 San Francisco Mint.	5,000.	

GROWTH OF THE UNION



CALIFORNIA HALF DOLLAR

The last coin of this period was struck at the San Francisco Mint in 1925 upon authority of an Act of Congress, February 24, 1925, to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the admission of California to the Union.

DESCRIPTION

F. *Obverse:* Kneeling figure of a miner washing gold from gravel; at top, around border, LIBERTY; in left field, IN GOD | WE TRUST; in exergue, CALIFORNIA'S DIAMOND | JUBILEE | —1925.

Reverse: A bear to left; at top around border, E PLURIBUS UNUM; in exergue, UNITED STATES | OF AMERICA | HALF DOLLAR. Models by J. Mora.

Number Struck: 150,200.

Number Melted: 63,606.

Released for Circulation: 86,594.

Degree of Rarity: R 4.

Historical Note: In 1848 Mexico ceded California to the United States. It was just at this time that gold was discovered in California and the new territory took on great national importance. There followed rapid settlement, excessive prices, reckless waste of money and wild commercial ventures.

Early in 1849 temporary local governments were set up in various California towns, and in September a convention framed a free-state constitution and applied for admission to the Union. On September 7, 1850, a bill finally passed Congress admitting California as a free state. This was one of the bargains in the "Compromise Measures of 1850" that were intended to dispose of the question of slavery in the Territories.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

THE Monroe Doctrine is the most important incident in our history, regulating our participation in foreign affairs, and vice versa.

In 1808, the Spanish colonies of South America began to rebel against their mother country. By 1822 Chili, Peru, Buenos Aires, Columbia and Venezuela, had secured their independence and were recognized by the United States as free. In Europe a combination had been formed which threatened their liberty. This was known as the Holy Alliance and embraced Austria, France, Russia and Prussia. These great powers were on the point of intervening in American affairs with the view of restoring the colonies to Spain. John Quincy Adams, Monroe's Secretary of State, saw alarming results if this interference were permitted, for he believed that this was merely a plan whereby these powers could step in and take what Spain was too weak to hold. Should this happen, the United States would be dangerously surrounded by three great powers. Adams thought Russia would take California, Peru and Chili; Cuba would go to England and Mexico to France. Therefore, Adams strongly urged Monroe to take a firm stand and to warn Europe against interference in the Western Hemisphere.

So, in December 1823, Monroe sent Congress a message which embodied the following principles:

1. That the United States would not look with favor upon the planting of any more European colonies on this continent;
2. That the governments of Europe must not meddle in American affairs;
3. That the United States would not meddle in the political affairs of Europe.

The Monroe Doctrine half dollar fittingly commemorates this policy which has been termed the beginning "of a new chapter in the history of the predominance of the United States in the New World."

Historical Note: The first of the main principles set down in the Monroe Doctrine was aimed especially at Russia's threat of encroachment on the Pacific coast. There had been a dispute in the Northwest between Russia, Great Britain and the United States because Russia had tried to exclude foreigners from commerce and fishing in disputed territory extending to the fifty-first parallel of latitude.

The second principle was a warning to the Quadruple Alliance not to interfere in influencing the new Spanish-American republics to return to their old allegiance or to attempt to establish "autocratic principles of divine-right monarchy."

In the third proposition the United States disclaimed any desire to interfere with the internal affairs of Europe.

FOREIGN RELATIONS



MONROE DOCTRINE HALF DOLLAR

The only coin we have to commemorate “Foreign Relations” is the Monroe Doctrine half dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress, January 24, 1923, and struck the same year at the San Francisco Mint to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the enunciation of the Monroe Doctrine.

DESCRIPTION

- A. *Obverse:* Accoladed busts of Presidents James Monroe and John Quincy Adams; below, MONROE (two links) Adams; at top around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; in left field, IN GOD | WE TRUST; in lower right field, 1923, below which is mint mark S; at bottom HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Two figures representing North and South America, in positions suggesting a map of the two continents, the former offering an olive branch of peace to the latter, who is carrying a cornucopia; in the field on both sides are delicately traced ocean currents; lower left field 1823-1923, separated by a scroll and pen emblematic of the “Treaty”; at top, around border, MONROE DOCTRINE CENTENNIAL; at bottom, around border, LOS ANGELES. Models by Chester Beach, small c B in lower right field near edge.

Number Struck: 274,077, all of which were released for circulation.

Degree of Rarity: R 2.

Historical Note: The Monroe Doctrine, expressing the philosophy of “America for the Americans,” takes its name from President Monroe who in his message to Congress in 1823 first gave it formal announcement. However, it is considered the corollary of the Washington and Jefferson policy of neutrality towards European affairs.

INSULAR POSSESSIONS

CAPTAIN James Cook was born on October 28, 1728, in the village of Marton, Yorkshire, where his father was first an agricultural laborer and then a farm bailiff. At thirteen years of age Cook was apprenticed to a haberdasher at Straiths, but after quarrelling with his master, he went as an apprentice on board a collier and soon afterwards was appointed mate.

Early in 1755 Cook joined the Royal Navy. In this service his promotions came steadily, after he distinguished himself in astronomical observations at sea and with geographical researches in the South Pacific.

The government desiring to discover a northwest passage sent Cook to explore the western coast of America in 1776. Reaching the coast in 1778, he went as far north as Bering Strait without finding a route. While returning to winter quarters in the Sandwich Islands, he discovered Hawaii. Here he met his tragic death early in 1799, while trying to secure reparations from the native king for a boat stolen from his ship, the "Discovery."

In the early part of the nineteenth century Hawaii was found to be a convenient stopping place for Yankee whalers and ships enroute to the Orient. The islands gradually became settled with a mixture of Americans, Chinese, Japanese and other foreigners, and trade grew rapidly for the islands were found to be a paradise endowed with a strange adaptability for growing fine fruits.

In 1875 the United States, by a treaty, secured the exclusive use of Pearl Harbor and a pledge not to alienate any property except to her.

Hawaii asked to be annexed to the United States in 1893, but with the political change, the bill was not put through until 1898, when it was found necessary for the United States to have a base from which she could protect her interests in the east.

Historical Note: The annexation of Hawaii was the logical and immediate outcome of the desire of the American people to have a mid-Pacific naval base. In accordance with a resolution of Congress passed July 7, 1898, the Hawaiian Islands were formally annexed August 12, 1898. By an act of Congress of April 13, 1900, all persons who were citizens of the Republic of Hawaii on August 12, 1898 became citizens of the United States and of the Territory of Hawaii, with ex-President Dole as the Territorial Governor. The territorial government today is based on the act of 1900. The executive power of the Territory is lodged in a governor who holds office for five years. He is appointed by the President of the United States.

INSULAR POSSESSIONS



CAPTAIN COOK HALF DOLLAR

This coin was authorized by an Act of Congress, March 7, 1928, and was struck in the same year to commemorate the one hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands.

DESCRIPTION

Obverse: Bust of Captain James Cook, to left; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; in left field, CAPT. | JAMES COOK | DISCOVERER OF | HAWAII; following Capt. a compass needle; in field, IN GOD | WE TRUST; at bottom, HALF DOLLAR, with symbols of four islands on either side; along inside of border a delicate wave motif. Small CB in lower right field.

Reverse: Figure of Hawaiian chief in full regalia, advancing over a hill top¹, right arm extended in welcome; in left hand a spear; in field, reproduction of a village of grass huts at foot of Diamond Hill, and along Waikiki Beach; lower left field, E PLURIBUS | UNUM, and a tropical fern; at bottom around border, 1778-1928; in right field, a cocoanut tree, the leaves filling the upper field. Models by Chester Beach.

Number Struck: 10,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 11.

Proofs: 50 sand blast proofs struck. Extremely rare.

Historical Note: Though the Hawaiian Islands were visited by the Spanish in 1527 and again in 1555, Captain James Cook is credited with the discovery because it was he who made them known to the world.

¹ Indicating Hawaii's rise from obscurity.

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TRADE FACILITATION

It is fitting to bring our commemorative history to a close with the story of the completion of a passage to China, which Columbus and many other explorers after him endeavored to find. The Panama Canal was not discovered, but made possible by American engineering and labor. It was completed in 1914, or 422 years after Columbus set sail in search of a new route.

Even before Columbus died, plans had been made for a cut through to the Pacific. In the years following many others made similar plans, but it remained for the French to be the first to start actual work.

In 1880 the French began work on the canal as a money-making venture. Every Frenchman who had any surplus invested it in the undertaking. Between 1880 and 1904 they spent \$300,000,000 before they were compelled to give up, due to the lack of funds. This, however, was not the only trouble they experienced. Yellow fever and malaria killed engineers and laborers alike. Preventive medicine had not been developed sufficiently for the French to know that mosquitoes and filth were enemies which must be conquered before it would be possible to successfully attack the barrier.

When it became apparent, in 1904, that the French had failed, the Americans undertook the task as a means of bringing the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts closer together. The necessity for this was impressed upon the United States when the U. S. S. Oregon had to sail around the Horn in the Spanish American War.

The Americans took ten years to complete the canal, spending \$375,000,000. Of the French excavation only \$30,000,000 worth was of use to the Americans. The reason that the Americans succeeded where the French had failed, is that there was a difference in the underlying motive, and the fact that the Americans learned to control the dreadful diseases, to which advantage, of course, must be added the progress made in engineering methods since the French began their work.

During the years of depression 1932-1935, it was thought in some quarters of the nation that one route to recovery lay through the medium of large expositions and fairs, to which crowds of people would be drawn. Among those held were the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago in 1933-1934 and the California-Pacific International Exposition at San Diego in 1935.

The coins under "Trade Facilitation" are among the very few commemorative coins that have been struck contemporarily with the events they commemorate.

Historical Note: The construction of the Panama Canal effected, among other forms of trade facilitation, a saving of 7,873 miles between New York and San Francisco: via the Strait of Magellan the distance is 13,135 miles; via the Panama Canal, only 5,262 miles.

TRADE FACILITATION



PANAMA-PACIFIC COINS QUINTUPLE EAGLE, (FIFTY DOLLARS)

The Act of Congress of January 16, 1915, authorized the striking of fifty, two-and-a-half, and one-dollar gold pieces, also silver half dollars, for the Panama-Pacific Exposition Company, all stamped with the date 1915. The Exposition was held in San Francisco, in 1915, and the coins were struck at the mint in that city.

DESCRIPTION

- A. *Obverse:* Octagon shape¹. Bust of Minerva² with crested helmet to left; over shoulder a segment of a shield, inscribed M.C.M.X.V; upper left field, IN GOD WE | TRUST; surrounded by two circles, the inner beaded, between which forming a continuous band, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—FIFTY DOLLARS; in angles of octagon, eight dolphins.

Reverse: An owl³ perched on a pine branch, pine cones and needles filling lower field; middle right field, E | PLURIBUS | UNUM; in band similar to obverse, PANAMA-PACIFIC . EXPOSITION . SAN FRANCISCO; field right of cone, mint mark S; in angles of octagon, eight dolphins⁴. Models by Robert Aitken, small R A beneath pine branch.

Number Struck: 1509.

Number Melted: 854.

Number Released: 646.

Degree of Rarity: R 14.

1. Same as above except round with the dolphins omitted.

Number Struck: 1510.

Number Melted: 1017.

Number Released: 483.

Degree of Rarity: R 15.

¹ This shape refers to the fifty dollar "slugs" used in California in 1851.

² Goddess of wisdom, skill, contemplation, spinning, weaving, agriculture and horticulture.

³ Accepted symbol of wisdom.

⁴ Indicating the continuous passage around the center of the world.

TRADE FACILITATION



PANAMA-PACIFIC COINS

QUARTER EAGLE

DESCRIPTION

B. *Obverse:* Columbia with caduceus in left hand, to right, seated on a seahorse riding through the sea to left; at top, around border, PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION. In exergue, 1915¹

Reverse: An eagle with raised wings to left, standing on classical standard, inscribed, E PLURIBUS UNUM; at top, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; below, 2½ DOL. Models by Charles E. Barber.

Number Struck: 10,017.

Number Melted: 3,250.

Number Released: 6,750.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

Historical Note: The fulfillment of the hope of the building of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama came at a time when growing economic surplus increased the pressure for home as well as foreign markets. The Panama Canal which shortened the passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific by thousands of miles was a great continental conquest. It came as an answer to the complaints of manufacturers and merchants regarding the high railway rates across the continent. It was a marked advantage to steamship companies engaged in coastwise trade. The Gulf cities derived special benefit by having increased traffic through the Isthmus.

The development of American interests on the Pacific coast as well as in the islands of the Pacific (interests being strengthened by the building of the Panama Canal) gave a powerful impetus to all the imperial enterprises of the United States. It will be remembered that the Panama Canal project followed closely upon the rounding out of the continent in the expansion of the United States to the Pacific and also upon the acquisition of islands in the Pacific and in the Caribbean.

¹ This design is symbolic of an invitation to the other nations of the world to use the new waterway.

TRADE FACILITATION



PANAMA-PACIFIC COINS

GOLD DOLLAR

DESCRIPTION

C. *Obverse:* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in two lines around border. Head of man with cap, to left, symbolizing a laborer through whose efforts the Panama Canal became a reality; below, 1915.

Reverse: PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION, SAN FRANCISCO in continuous line around border; in center, in horizontal, ONE | DOLLAR encircled by two dolphins¹, in field; mint mark S. Designed by Charles Keck.

Number Struck: 25,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 8.

Historical Note: The extension of American sovereignty over alien territories emphasized the need for such a passageway as the Panama Canal. The United States had intervened in the affairs of Cuba which had been in revolt against Spain. A brief war with Spain resulted in the acquisition of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands. Cuba has since become an independent self-governing republic. Porto Rico now has a special sort of government with a popularly elected lower house and an upper house containing members appointed by the United States Senate. In January 1933, the Philippines received their independence but with a ten-year probationary period.

This country was not unanimous in approving the issue of imperialism. Though there was a large group of anti-imperialists, there was an even larger opposing group that enjoyed the national grandeur which came with the new possessions. In the presidential campaign of 1900, the Republicans, who believed in the imperialistic policy of the country, won the political battle. The election results showed the majority of citizens to be enjoying the country's heightened prestige abroad and widespread prosperity at home. However, the imperial advance of the United States in the Pacific and in the Caribbean never did result in a philosophy of an empire which could be incorporated into the Constitution.

¹ Signifies the meeting of the two oceans.

TRADE FACILITATION



PANAMA-PACIFIC COINS

SILVER HALF DOLLAR

DESCRIPTION

D. *Obverse:* Columbia facing left, scattering flowers; behind her a child holding a large cornucopia;¹ in the field the Golden Gate and the setting sun; at top, around border, PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION; below, a conventionalized wave motif; at bottom, 1915 and mint mark S.

Reverse: UNITED—STATES OF—AMERICA and below HALF—DOLLAR. Eagle with wings spread standing on shield of the United States; in field to left an oak branch; to right an olive branch; in field above, IN GOD | WE—TRUST. Models by Charles E. Barber.

Number Struck: 60,030.

Number Melted: 32,866.

Number Released: 27,134.

Degree of Rarity: R 8.

Historical Note: The Panama-Pacific International Exposition was held in San Francisco from February 20 to December 4, 1915. The exposition was held for the purpose of celebrating the construction and opening of the Panama Canal. Among the exhibits was a group known as the Court of the Universe, the most symbolic of the exposition's purpose. This court represented a meeting place of the Eastern and Western hemispheres which had been more closely joined by the building of the Panama Canal.

¹ Indicating the boundless resources of the west.

TRADE FACILITATION



SAN DIEGO EXPOSITION HALF DOLLAR

Next in this group is the coin, authorized by an Act of Congress in 1935, to indicate the interest of the government of the United States in the fulfillment of the ideals and purposes of the California-Pacific International Exposition.

DESCRIPTION

E. *Obverse:* Arms of the State of California, below LIBERTY; around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, bottom border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Scene from the Exposition. Upper left field, SAN DIEGO; right field, 1935; lower field, IN GOD WE TRUST; around border, CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC-INTERNATIONAL-EXPOSITION. Designed by Robert Aitken.

Number Struck: 50,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 6.

Historical Note: The conquest of Mexico by Cortés is closely woven with the early history of California, for California existed as a province of conquered Mexico, or New Spain, for three centuries. California will carry for a long time the vestiges and memories of Spain. The blood of Spanish soldiers mixing with Aztec blood gave us the modern Mexicans; and these Mexicans were the first settlers of the pueblos, or communal villages, of California. Hosts of Mexican working people gathered about the estates of the patrician Spaniards who had been given large grants of land in the new province. Spain held the doctrine that California, like every other human enterprise, should stand on two pillars—temporal and spiritual. Therefore, Catholic Spain called to her aid the missionary orders of the Church. The first mission in California was erected at San Diego, which even today holds the spirit of old, with its Spanish ruins as well as its palms and olive trees lingering in the padres' old gardens.

MEMORIALS

THE coins in this category do not literally belong in our commemorative history, as they were issued in memory of individuals and miscellaneous events. However, they do commemorate important lives and services.

MILITARY AND PRESIDENTIAL

Among the men honored with commemorative coins are: General Lafayette, the Frenchman, who gave so much aid to Washington and the American cause during the Revolutionary War; General Grant, the leader of the Federal Army in the Civil War and afterwards President of the United States; Generals Lee and Jackson, Confederate leaders in the Civil War; and President McKinley, whose term extended through the Spanish American War.

PIONEER

The life and work of Daniel Boone, one of our first pioneers, whose efforts in extending the territorial border to the Mississippi River is suitably marked with a coin.

CITY

The city of Hudson, N. Y. is the only one in this group. However, it is known that more are planned.

Historical Note: Hudson, New York, is located on the east bank of the Hudson River, 28 miles south of Albany. During the patroon system it was part of the estate of the Van Rensselaer family. Then it became merely a landing, called Claverack Landing, with a few crude wharves and storehouses. In 1783, its present name of "Hudson," was adopted in honor of Hendrik Hudson who landed there before proceeding up the river in a smaller boat.

In the middle of the 18th century some Dutch settlers came to the landing and in 1784 the place was colonized by an association of merchants and fishermen from New England. A city charter was received in 1785 and in 1790 Hudson was made a port of entry. Under a charter of 1895, the government is now administered by a mayor, elected biennially, and a city council. The city carried on a very extensive foreign trade and was an important whaling center for many years. However, its shipping was almost completely destroyed by the War of 1812.

Today Hudson has a number of manufacturing establishments. Chief among these are foundry products, machinery, knit goods, car wheels, tools and furniture. Hudson's picturesque situation on the slope of Prospect Hill together with its historical background makes it a most interesting city to visit.

MEMORIALS

MILITARY AND PRESIDENTIAL



LAFAYETTE SILVER DOLLAR

This coin was struck under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1899.¹ The date 1900 was that of the unveiling of the memorial during the exposition in Paris, France.

DESCRIPTION

A. *Obverse:* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Heads of Washington and Lafayette, conjoined, to right; below, LAFAYETTE DOLLAR.

Reverse: ERECTED . BY . THE . YOUTH . OF . THE . UNITED . STATES . IN . HONOR . OF . GEN. . LAFAYETTE. Equestrian statue of Gen. Lafayette, to left, on base, BARTLETT; below, star PARIS star 1900 Star. By C. E. Barber and Bartlett.

Number Struck: 50,026, all of which were released for circulation.

Degree of Rarity: R 5.

Historical Note: The Marquis de Lafayette, though a French general and statesman, was one of Washington's most faithful officers during the American Revolution. At the first news of the Revolutionary War, Lafayette showed his enthusiasm for the cause of the colonists. He voluntarily gave his service in our struggle for independence. Lafayette's valor won for him the rank of major-general before he was twenty-one. Though he was wounded at Brandywine, Lafayette was active through the remainder of the war. It was largely through his efforts that France dispatched a fleet as well as a land force to the aid of the Americans.

¹ First appearance of a President on a United States coin.

MEMORIALS

MILITARY AND PRESIDENTIAL



GRANT MEMORIAL COINS

These coins, two varieties each of the gold dollar and the silver half dollar, were authorized, February 2, 1922, and struck in the same year, to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Ulysses S. Grant.

DESCRIPTION

GOLD DOLLAR

- B. *Obverse:* Bust of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, in military uniform; below, 1822-1922; in field at left, ULYSSES S. —at right, GRANT; around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; at bottom, ONE DOLLAR.

Reverse: Log cabin, with tall trees surrounding; in field at left, E | PLURI-BUS | UNUM; at top, IN GOD WE TRUST. Models by Laura G. Fraser. Small L G F in monogram under bust.

Number Struck: 5,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

1. Same as above, but with a small incused star in field near last A in America.

Number Struck: 5,000, all of which were released.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

SILVER HALF DOLLAR

- C. Same type as Gold Dollar.

Number Struck: 95,000.

Number Melted: 27,785.

Number Released: 67,215.

Degree of Rarity: R 5.

1. Same as above but with a small incused star in field near last A in America.

Number Struck: 5,000.

Number Melted: 750.

Number Released: 4,250.

Degree of Rarity: R 13.

MEMORIALS

MILITARY AND PRESIDENTIAL



STONE MOUNTAIN HALF DOLLAR

This coin was authorized on March 17, 1924, and struck in 1925, in commemoration of the gigantic bas relief carving begun on Stone Mountain, Georgia, a monument to the valor of the soldiers of the South.

DESCRIPTION

D. *Obverse:* Equestrian figures of Gen. Robert E. Lee and Gen. Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, to left; at top, around border, IN GOD WE TRUST; upper field, above figures, thirteen stars in two lines; lower left field, STONE MOUNTAIN | 1925; small G B on edge of right field for Borglum.

Reverse: Eagle to left, wings spread, standing on mountain crag; above, around border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and parallel in smaller letters, E. PLURIBUS . UNUM; in middle left field, MEMORIAL | TO THE VALOR | OF THE SOLDIER | OF THE SOUTH; lower field, LIBERTY; entire field sprinkled with stars dimly visible; at bottom, around border, HALF DOLLAR. Models by Gutzon Borglum.

Number Struck: 2,314,709. *Number Melted:* 1,165.

Released for Circulation: 2,313,544.

Degree of Rarity: R 1.

Historical Note: Robert E. Lee, the commander of the Confederate army during the Civil War, had a military career famous for its defensive strategy. His rapid grasp of a military situation and his unusual understanding of men helped to make him one of the country's greatest generals.

Thomas J. Jackson devoted himself wholly and loyally to Lee. Jackson who was also a splendid soldier was known for his sound military judgment.

MEMORIALS

MILITARY AND PRESIDENTIAL



MCKINLEY GOLD DOLLAR

This coin was issued on authority of Congress, granted February 23, 1916, and struck in both 1916 and 1917 for the McKinley Memorial Association, in connection with the erection of a memorial building at Niles, Ohio, the birthplace of William McKinley.

DESCRIPTION

E. *Obverse:* UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. MCKINLEY DOLLAR, forming continuous border. Head of McKinley facing left.

Reverse: MCKINLEY BIRTHPLACE, NILES-OHIO, at top in two lines; facade of the McKinley Memorial Building; in exergue 1916-MEMORIAL. Models, obverse by Charles E. Barber; reverse by George T. Morgan.

Number Struck: 20,026, all being released.

Degree of Rarity: R 9.

1. Same as above except date which is 1917.

Number Struck: 10,000, all being released.

Degree of Rarity: R 11.

Historical Note: William McKinley, the twenty-fifth President of the United States, gained a position of unusual prestige and was looked upon as embodying the successes which under his lead the people had achieved. Though contrary to his earlier political policy, McKinley came out strongly for the gold standard, in accordance with the Republican platform. He became a vigorous leader against the work of the free-silver campaign. McKinley's administration was characterized particularly by the events and policies incident to the expansion of influence and territory. The mass of people came to regard McKinley with esteem and confidence rarely shown for so long a time to any public leader.

MEMORIALS

PIONEER



BOONE HALF DOLLAR

These coins were authorized by an Act of Congress in 1934 and appeared the same year, to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Daniel Boone.

DESCRIPTION

- A. *Obverse:* Portrait of Daniel Boone; around top border, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; bottom border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Chief Black Fish negotiating a treaty with Boone. Top border in two lines, IN GOD WE TRUST and E PLURIBUS UNUM; left field, DANIEL BOONE BICENTENNIAL; right field over a rising sun, PIONEER YEAR; bottom 1934. Designed by Augustus Lukeman.

Number Authorized: 600,000 were originally authorized and this is divided into numerous minor varieties.

<i>Variety</i>	<i>Number Struck</i>	<i>Degree of Rarity</i>
1. 1934 Philadelphia Mint	10,000.	R 11.
2. 1935 Philadelphia Mint	10,000.	R 11.
3. 1935 San Francisco	5,000.	R 12.
4. 1935 Denver Mint	5,000.	R 12.
5. 1935-34 Philadelphia Mint	10,000.	R 11.
6. 1935-34 Denver ¹	2,000.	R 13.
7. 1935-34 San Francisco	2,000.	R 13.
8. 1936 Philadelphia Mint	10,000.	R 11.

¹ The 1935-34 varieties were struck in 1935 with a small 1934 added.

MEMORIALS CITY



Reverse

Obverse

HUDSON HALF DOLLAR

Next is the Hudson half-dollar, authorized by an Act of Congress in 1935, and struck the same year, to commemorate the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the City of Hudson, N. Y.

DESCRIPTION

A. *Obverse:* Ship, with a half moon in the left field and the word "HUDSON" below. Above in the field, IN GOD WE TRUST. Top border, UNITED STATES and bottom border, HALF DOLLAR.

Reverse: Neptune riding a whale with a mermaid in the background, above which is a scroll bearing ET DECUS ET PRETIUM RECTI and below E PLURIBUS UNUM. Top border, CITY OF HUDSON, N. Y.; bottom border, 1785-1935. Designed by Chester Beach.

Number Struck: 10,000.

Degree of Rarity: R 12.

Historical Note: The Half-Moon was the name of the ship in which Hendrik Hudson undertook his voyage in search of the Northwest Passage to the Indies, but in which he skirted the New England coast and sailed up the Hudson River. The ship, though a small merchant ship, was beautiful with its rich colors, its fine carvings and its silk flags. It exhibited the familiar lines of the late 16th century ships: a steep sheer fore and aft, a narrow high stern transom on which appeared the crescent moon from which the ship took its name. On the fore part of the ship were displayed the two shields displaying the lion of the United Provinces and the arms of the Dutch West India Company.

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APPENDIX

FRAUDULENT GRANT HALF DOLLAR VARIETY

SOME fraudulent coins of the Grant Half Dollar variety with the star have been detected, no doubt introduced by someone who wished to profit by the extreme rarity of the coin.

Mr. William J. Schultz of Cincinnati, Ohio, describes these coins in *The Numismatist* for May 1932 as follows: "In the genuine Grant, with star, the finish of the star inside and up to the points thereof is the same finish as that in the field of the coin; also, you will find the star but slightly embedded and evenly surfaced upon the field of the coin. In the fraudulent coin, the exact position of the star varies from the position in the genuine, also in using the punch on a plain field, the metal when struck is thereby forced downward causing a bulging uneven-like surface about the star, while the star itself is unfinished and its interior is silver-white in color."

OTHER FRAUDULENT COMMEMORATIVE COINS

THE following has been taken directly from *The Numismatist* for January and February 1935: "Dangerous cast counterfeits of the commemorative half dollars have been offered around New York at bargain prices to the small dealers who display a few coins in their windows. These fakes look genuine enough at first glance, as one would not expect to find these coins counterfeited. They are very finely cast in good silver and show little wear. They have a good color and a good ring. However, they can easily be detected by their size, as they are a trifle smaller than the genuine. The fake pieces noted are the Panama-Pacific, Hawaiian, Missouri, Alabama, Grant with star, and Oregon Trail 1926."

COUNTERFEITER ARRESTED

"Following the appearance of several counterfeit half dollars in New York City recently, the Secret Service operatives in that city under Alan G. Straight arrested Nicholas Derevitzkay at his apartment on December 22.

In his apartment the agents found complete equipment for molding the coins, made over from a dental mechanic's paraphernalia. Derevitzkay confessed and told how he entered the business of manufacturing spurious collector's coins.

A few months ago he conceived the idea of manufacturing the counterfeit coins. His work was so perfect that none of the dealers suspected the fraud until they weighed the coins and found them about four grains short of the prescribed government weight.

Derevitzkay disclosed that he had used a new method in turning out the coins, so that, except for the short weight, they were perfect. He fashioned plaster-of-paris molds and then forced the silver into the mold through a pinhole at the bottom of a tube, using air pressure of several hundred pounds. This made the milling perfect as it filled out every tiny crevice.

Among the issues duplicated by Derevitzkay—he turned out about three a day—were the Panama-Pacific half dollar, the Alabama Centennial half dollar, 1921, Missouri half dollar, 1921, Hawaiian half dollar, Oregon Trail half dollar, 1926, and California half dollar."

COUNTERMARKED STONE MOUNTAIN HALF DOLLARS

WHAT is known concerning these coins can best be told by quoting the following information directly from *The Numismatist* for April, June and July 1932:

In the April issue Mr. Farran Zerbe of New York City says: "An inquiry comes from one of our members in Chattanooga, Tenn., regarding the countermarking of Stone Mountain half dollars. The coin submitted for inspection has in the upper field the number 197, and in the lower field, immediately over Liberty, TENN. Our inquirer states that this is one of a number of similar countermarked coins, all having a different number, but so far, his inquiry as to the purpose of this countermarking has not produced any positive information."

In the June issue Mr. Charles H. Drake, of Braselton, Ga., writes: "The Stone Mountain Memorial Association, headed by Hollins Randolph, of Atlanta, Ga., had control of the distribution and sale of the Stone Mountain Memorial half dollar. After the memorial was well under way a disagreement between Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor, and the officials of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association, resulted in the dismissal of Borglum. Within a few months another noted sculptor, Augustus Lukeman, was secured by the association to finish the memorial. At this time the association was running short of funds, and to raise additional money they numbered consecutively several hundred of the coins in mint condition and sent them to the mayors of all towns in Georgia (probably to some other states) with the request that they be advertised and sold for the highest bid and the money received from the sale of these numbered coins be returned to the association for completing the carving of Confederate heroes on the face of Stone Mountain by Mr. Lukeman. As only one numbered coin was sent to each town for auction, it is believed that none were sold for less than \$10 each, and that many sold for \$50 or more."

In the July issue Mr. C. H. Ohr of Honey Grove, Texas, says: "I was local chairman selling the coins in Honey Grove, Texas, and I had one coin stamped 'No. 143,' the number of my district, and 'Texas' also stamped. These Special coins were sold to the highest bidders and brought as much as \$262 each in one town. There was only one of each particular stamp, and I suppose Tennessee did the same thing as the Texas State Committee."

In time, more information concerning this intensive campaign to market these coins will become known, and probably in the future they will appear in collections, but at present it is believed that the high prices paid will keep them in the families as souvenirs.

COIN DESIGNERS

AITKEN, ROBERT, sculptor; b. May 18, 1878 at San Francisco, California; Principal works: monuments to William McKinley at Berkeley and St. Helena, California; monument to the American Navy, San Francisco; "The Fountain of the Earth" and "Four Elements" at the Panama-Pacific Exposition; Marine Monument, Parris Island; colossal bronzes, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Webster, Benjamin Franklin and Henry Clay in the Hall of Fame.

Coins Designed: Panama-Pacific Fifty Dollar Gold piece, 1915; Missouri Centennial half dollar, 1921; San Diego Exposition half dollar, 1935.

BARBER, CHARLES E., engraver; b. in 1840; came to this country early in his career; in 1869 was appointed assistant engraver in the United States Mint at Philadelphia; his best work is found in the medals struck for President Garfield, and the Great Seal of the United States; died in Philadelphia in 1917.

Coins Designed: Columbian quarter and half dollar, 1892-3; Louisiana Purchase gold dollars; Lewis and Clark gold dollar; Lafayette silver dollar; Panama-Pacific quarter eagle and half dollar, 1915; McKinley gold dollar obverse; half dollar 1892-1915; five cents 1883-1912.

BEACH, CHESTER, sculptor; b. San Francisco, May 23, 1881; Principal works: "Fountain of the Waters" and "Twelve Signs of the Zodiac;" Fine Arts Garden, Cleveland; three groups Panama-Pacific Exposition; life sized marbles in California Palace of Legion of Honor, San Francisco.

Coins Designed: Monroe Doctrine, Lexington-Concord, Captain Cook and Hudson, New York half dollars.

COPPINI, POMPEO, sculptor; b. May 19, 1870, Montua, Italy; Principal works: statue of George Washington, Mexico City; equestrian statue of General J. H. Morgan, Louisville, Ky.; cowboy equestrian group, Bellinger, Texas; War Memorial Fountain at University of Texas.

Coins Designed: Texas Centennial half dollar.

BORGLUM, GUTZON, sculptor; painter, author, engineer; b. Idaho, March 25, 1867; Principal works: Sheridan Equestrians, Washington and Chicago; colossal marble head of Lincoln in rotunda, Capitol Bldg., Washington; Ruskin bronze statue of Lincoln, Newark, N. J.; Trail Drivers memorial, Texas; designed and began carving Confederate memorial on face of Stone Mountain, Ga., but all plans, work and models were destroyed as result of a controversy with the Stone Mountain Memorial Association; designer and sculptor of first national federally authorized memorial built by State of S. D. on Mount Rushmore in Black Hills.

Coins Designed: Author and designer Stone Mountain Memorial half dollar, 1925.

BURR, EDWARD EVERETT

Coins Designed: Arkansas half dollars.

DALLIN, CYRUS, sculptor; b. Springville, Utah, Nov. 22, 1861. Principal works: Signal of Peace, Lincoln Park, Chicago; Sir Isaac Newton, Congressional Library, Washington; Pioneer monument and Angel, Temple, Salt Lake City; statue of Massasoit, Plymouth, Mass.; Signing of the Compact, Provincetown, Mass.; "Spirit of Life," Brookline, Mass.

Coins designed: Pilgrim Tercentenary half dollars 1920-21.

DE FRANCISCI, ANTHONY, b. July 13, 1887, in Italy. Pupil of George T. Brewster, James E. Fraser and A. A. Weinman. Awarded Saltus medal American Numismatic Society, N. Y. 1927.

Coins Designed: Maine Centennial half dollar; Peace dollar 1921- .

FRASER, LAURA GARDIN, sculptor; b. Chicago, Ill., Sept. 4, 1889. Designer of U. S. Army and Navy chaplains' medal; Better Babies medal; Irish Setter Club of American medal; "Grape Baby" fountain in Rose Garden, Delaware Park, Buffalo; Polo Pony medal; Seal for Belleau Wood Memorial Assn. Awarded Saltus medal by American Numismatic Society, N. Y. 1926.

Coins Designed: Alabama half dollar, 1921; Grant Memorial coins, 1922; Vancouver half dollar, 1925; Oregon Trail half dollars.

HOFFECKER, L. W. El Paso Museum.

Coins Designed: Old Spanish Trail half dollar 1935.

KECK, CHARLES, sculptor; b. N. Y. City, Sept. 9, 1875. Principal works: Monument to George Washington, Palmero Park, Buenos Aires; U. S. S. Maine memorial tablets for U. S. Govt.; Lewis and Clark, Charlottesville, Va.; Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee, Ala.

Coins Designed: Panama-Pacific gold dollar, 1915; Bennington-Vermont half dollar, 1927.

LUKEMAN, AUGUSTUS, sculptor; b. Richmond, Va. Jan. 28, 1871. Principal works: statues Wm. McKinley, Adams, Mass. & Dayton, Ohio; Portrait busts and bas relief for buildings in Pittsburgh and New York; equestrian statue Kit Carson, Trinidad, Ill.; Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial with Memorial Hall, Stone Mountain, Ga.

Coins Designed: Daniel Boone half dollars, 1934- .

MANSHIP, PAUL, sculptor; b. St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 25, 1885. Principal works: Bronze statue of Lincoln as a young man, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Awarded many gold medals and prizes, among which was the American Numismatic Society Medal, 1924. Decorated Legion of Honor, France.

Coins Designed: Directed the W. P. A. Project design of the Connecticut half dollar.

MORA, J., painter and sculptor; b. Oct. 22, 1876 in Montevideo, Uruguay, S. A. Principal works: "Cervantes Monument," San Francisco, Calif. "Doughboy" San Raphael, Calif.; "Bret Harte Memorial," Bohemian Club, San Francisco.

Coins Designed: California Diamond Jubilee half dollar, 1925.

MORGAN, GEORGE T., engraver; b. in Birmingham, England, in 1845. Morgan studied at the art school in Birmingham and won a national scholarship in the South Kensington Art School, where he was a student for two years. He came to the U. S. and in 1875 was made an assistant engraver in the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia and remained there a number of years.

Coins Designed: Huguenot-Walloon half dollar, 1924; obverse Illinois half dollar, 1918; reverse McKinley dollar, 1916; designed and executed the dies for the once famous "Bland Dollar" (regular issue of the silver dollar from 1878 to 1904, derived its name from the Bland Allison Act of Feb. 28, 1878).

SCHULER, HANS, sculptor; Director of the Maryland Institute.

Coins Designed: Maryland half dollar 1934.

SINNOCK, J. R., medallist; b. July 8, 1888 in Raton, N. M. Principal works: Mural decorations in Rosemount School, Rosemount, Pa., Franford High School and Edmunds School, Phila., Pa.; Special Congressional Medal of Honor to Thomas A. Edison, 1928. Employed at the U. S. Mint.

Coins Designed: Sesqui-centennial quarter eagle and half dollar, 1926.

BENSON, JOHN HOWARD.

CAREY, ARTHUR GRAHAM.

Coins Designed: Co-designers of the Providence, Rhode Island, half dollar, 1936.

ACTS AUTHORIZING SPECIAL COINS

THESE acts are all similar content and much repetition would be necessary to give them all. Therefore, three acts are given as typical examples.

Act of August 5, 1892

An Act to aid in carrying out the Act of Congress approved April twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety, entitled "An act to provide for celebrating the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, by holding an inter-national exposition of arts, industries, manufactures, and products of the soil, mine, and sea, in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois," and appropriating money there-fore.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of aiding in defraying the cost of completing in a suitable manner the work of preparation for inaugurating the World's Columbian Exposition, authorized by the Act of Congress approved April twenty-fifth, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety, to be held at the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, there shall be coined at the mints of the United States, silver half dollars of the legal weight and fineness, not to exceed five million pieces, to be known as the Columbian half dollar, struck in commemoration of the World's Columbian Exposition, the devices and designs upon which shall be prescribed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; and said silver coins shall be manufactured from uncurrent subsidiary silver coins now in the Treasury, and all provisions of the law relative to the coinage, legal tender quality, and redemption of the present subsidiary silver coins shall be applicable to the coins issued under this act, and when so recoined there is hereby appropriated from the Treasury the said five millions of souvenir half dollars, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay the same to the World's Columbian Exposition.

Act of March 7, 1928

An Act to authorize the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain James Cook, and for the purpose of aiding in establishing a Captain James Cook memorial collection in the archives of the Territory of Hawaii.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain James Cook, and for the aiding in establishing a Captain James Cook memorial collection in the archives of the Territory of Hawaii, there shall be coined in the mints of the United States silver 50-cent pieces to the number of ten thousand, such 50-cent pieces to be of a standard troy weight, composition, diameter, and design as shall be fixed by the director of the mint and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, which said 50-cent pieces shall be legal tender in any payment of their face value.

Sec. 2. The coins herein authorized shall be issued only upon the request of the Cook Sesqui-centennial Commission of Hawaii and in such numbers and at such times as they shall request upon payment by such commission to the United States of the par value of such coins.

Sec. 3. All laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same, regulating and guarding the process of coinage, providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of the coins, for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting, for security of the coin or for any other purpose, whether said laws are penal or otherwise shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein authorized: Provided, That the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the dies and other preparation of this coinage.

Act of April 13, 1935

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, to indicate the interest of the Government of the United States in the fulfillment of the ideals and purposes of the California-Pacific International Exposition, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint 50-cent silver pieces to the number of not more than 250,000, of standard weight and fineness and of special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for this coinage.

Sec. 2. That the coins herein authorized shall be issued at par and only upon request of the California-Pacific International Company or its duly authorized agent.

Sec. 3. Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by said Exposition and all proceeds shall be used in furtherance of the California-Pacific International Exposition projects.

Sec. 4. That all laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same; regulating and guarding the process of coining; providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of the coins; for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting; for security of the coin; or for any other purposes, whether said laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein directed.

Required Elements in Design

Certain specific conditions are required by the United States Mint in the design of half dollars (special or otherwise). They are as follows: the coin shall have on the obverse an emblem symbolic of Liberty, the words LIBERTY, IN GOD WE TRUST and the date of coinage. On the reverse the words UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, E PLURIBUS UNUM and HALF DOLLAR.
Sec. 1. Sec. 2. Sec. 3. Sec. 4. Sec. 1. Sec. 2. Sec. 3. Sec. 4. Sec. 1. Sec. 2.

NOTES ON NEW COINS

MEMORANDA

